

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the careful examination of the application. However, in view of the foregoing amendments, and the remarks that follow, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Claims Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112:

In response to the rejection of Claims 40-46, Claim 40 has been amended to change "the" to "a" to avoid any problem with insufficient antecedent basis.

Claims 36, 41, 42, 45 and 46 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In response to the comment made by the Examiner concerning Claims 36 and 42, Claims 36 and 42 have been amended to conform to the specification.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112.

Art Rejections:

Claims 4-6, 10, 13-15, 23-25, 29-30, 32-36, 40-42, and 45 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,280,245, hereinafter *Nishikawa*. In response to the rejection, Claim 4 has been amended to further include "wherein the selected piece of setup information affects assortment of selectable items to be displayed on a screen initiated by the printer driver when a printing is executed by a user". Support for the amendment may be found in Figure 8, and the portions of the specification describing Figure 8.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, selectable items, such as the number of copies, the paper source, orientation, etc., all which are illustrated in Figure 8, are displayed. However, the present invention is not limited to the disclosed preferred embodiments.

As now amended, Claim 4 defines a method that comprises, among other elements, automatically referring to regional information identifying a particular region and automatically selecting a piece of setup information from multiple pieces of setup information stored on the recording medium on the basis of the referred to regional information, wherein the selected piece of setup information affects assortment of selectable items to be displayed on a screen initiated by the printer driver when a printing is executed by a user. In other words, the selected piece of setup information automatically selects a plurality of selectable items on the screen based on the preset regional information. Accordingly, setup is simplified.

Neither *Nishikawa* nor *Yeung* teaches or suggests such a combination. In particular, *Yeung* merely discloses a data structure which includes the ability to identify the paper sources available to a particular printer. However, neither *Yeung*, nor *Nishikawa*, either separately or in combination, teaches the claimed combination which coordinates the regional information with the automatic selection of both setup information and displayed selectable items.

Accordingly, Claim 4 is clearly patentable over the applied prior art.

The remaining independent claims have been amended in a similar manner, and are thus also patentable over the applied prior art. Furthermore, the dependent claims are patentable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claims.

Accordingly, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all of the claims of the present application should now be in condition for allowance.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this response, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: May 5, 2008

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